

Colombo 24th April 1818

Dear Brother & Sister Poor

Your letter by Brother Richards and the one enclosing Dr Worcester's were duly received. I shall attempt to give you a short answer although I am sensible I shall receive injury from it. You expressed your belief in your last letter that I was able to write if I would. I have considered, Dear Brother, with much prayer your objections to my taking a voyage to the Cape and have many times regretted with many tears that we should differ in opinion with respect to my duty and also that I have not been able to write you a long letter. But a Righteous God has been pleased to place the latter out of my power. My Dear Brother and Sister, be assured that you are no less the objects of my sincere affection than you were when I was a member of your family; nor is the mission in which I operate with you, the happiest years of my life ~~and~~ ^{as} dear to my heart than it ~~then~~ ^{then} was. If any one subject has been more the burden of my heart than another it has been that I might be restored to you and to our mission with sufficient health to do something at least in the delightful work in which you were left to labour alone. But I hope this has been equally my prayer not my will but ~~that~~ ^{that} be done. While the subject of my going to the Cape or returning to Saffra was left in suspense. I think I enjoy more solid peace of mind than I have at any time since my last departure. And while Brother Richards on whom the decision finally depended was making up his mind for what to advise me I felt that it was good to be in the hands of a God who will always direct those who look to him for direction. It has many pleasant seasons in reflecting that God might make the path plain for me to return to my friends in Saffra; though his decision was at last the same which I should have been obliged to make, had it been left to me. I will just mention what I consider a few of the reasons why I should follow the present leadings of Divine Providence in going to the Cape. I have scarcely a symptom of a settled consumption. I have no

except in the morning when I get up and is brought on by some exertion
I never slept better. I have no hectic symptoms or cold sweats. I have nothing
from my lungs which has the least appearance of ~~inflammation~~ ulceration. I
have no fixed pain in my side or breast and my shortness of breath, tenderness
of lungs, and cough, which are my most unpleasant symptoms are
always better or worse in proportion as I gain or lose my ~~strength~~ strength
and appetite. I therefore must conclude that with the physicians and
Br. Richards that my disease is in the insipient ~~of~~ ^{may} forming stage. How
soon my symptoms ~~will~~ ^{may} put on a different appearance He who
has thus afflicted me only knows. Should I not be considered ^{now} since it
is left with me, ~~of~~ a faithful servant, should I neglect ~~to use~~ the means which
God ~~has~~ ^{is} evidently in my view directing me to use in my present state of
health? I wish to write pages to you on the subject but duty commands
me to stop. I now though I think it my duty to follow the advice
of Br. Richards and all who have seen me yet I am sensible that
I am in the hands of a Righteous & Holy God and that without
his blessing the means which I am about to use for the restoration
of my health will be of no avail. I feel happy that I am
in his hands and my daily prayer is that he will direct me
to those steps which will be for his glory and keep me from
those which will dishonour him or his cause. I often feel ~~at~~
~~that~~ pleasing confidence that He will; for I trust I do look to
him in sincerity for it. Although I expect to go on board
in the morning, yet even this He can prevent if He sees
it best. ~~and~~ A return of blessing which is feared may be
brought on by my removal to the ship, but God will
direct - this is my ~~consideration~~ consolation. You will

I know continue to pray for me and be assured that you both
and your little Daughter whom I earnestly desire to see will ^{be} on my
mind daily while I am a pilgrim here below. Kiss her for me
and do not let her forget my name. I hope ere long if the Lord will
to see you all again in the flesh. But may we meet in
a better world than this and see eye to eye and spend an eternity
in praising our saviour and our God.

Ap 25

I am your brother in
the Lord

E. W

I intended to write a little more
this morn but cannot

Mr. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
Boston 22nd April 1815.

42,50
15
27,50
J. W. Pally

5,50
94
5,84

Mrs. D. P. [unclear]

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